

ABSTRACT

A coating composition includes 1.5 to 4 weight percent of a film-forming acrylic resin having an average molecular weight of from about 235,000 to about 285,000; 5 4 to 8 weight percent of a film-forming acrylic resin having an average molecular weight of from about 175,000 to about 225,000; 1 to 3 weight percent of solid caustic; and 75 to 85 weight percent water. The film-forming acrylic resins may be copolymers of alpha-beta 10 ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomers and ethylenically unsaturated esters. A dried coating of the composition is water-soluble. A method for making the coating composition includes heating water from about 140 to about 200°F; admixing to the heated water the solid 15 caustic; admixing to the heated water the first and second film-forming acrylic resins; mixing the acrylic resin/caustic/water mixture until the acrylic resins are dissolved in the water; and admixing additional water into the acrylic resin/caustic/water mixture in an amount 20 so that the total water in the composition is from about 75 to about 85 weight percent. The composition may be applied to any article, such as an automobile body having partially-set paint thereon to protect the paint from scratching.